

## **Fernández Opazo, María Carolina (Mexico)**

[Original: Spanish / English]

### **Note verbale**

The Embassy of Mexico presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and has the honour, with reference to note ICC-ASP/S/6/06 of 12 March 2007, to inform States Parties that the Government of Mexico has decided to present the candidature of Mrs. Carolina María Fernández Opazo for election to the Committee on Budget and Finance for the period 2008-2011 at elections to be held at the sixth session of the Assembly of States Parties from 30 November to 14 December 2007 at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

The nomination of Mrs. Carolina María Fernández Opazo reflects the interest of the Government of Mexico in contributing to consolidating the Court's budgetary procedures, stabilizing its budgets and promoting the efficient management of its resources, to enable the Court to exercise its mandate in accordance with its strategic priorities. Mexico is convinced that the process of preparing the Court budget and the interaction between the Court, the States Parties and the Committee can be improved, enabling the Assembly of States Parties to concentrate on substantive issues relating to the Court's work. The participation of Mrs. Fernández Opazo in the Committee's work will help to ensure that the Court is equipped with the tools it needs to discharge its mandate under the terms of the Statute of Rome and to develop into a solid and efficient judicial institution, both financially and materially, with transparent and stable budgetary procedures.

Among the issues that Mexico considers to be of priority for the Committee's work are: structure and presentation of the budget (closer connection with actual expenditure; greater emphasis on macroanalysis, allowing discussion at the strategic level; justification of additional resources and non-recurrent resources; performance indicators, etc.); permanent premises (identifying the best project management structures and solutions for cost allocation and financing models so that the Assembly of States Parties is assured of the best possible conditions); human resources (review of human-resource policies and practices with a view to consolidating best practices for recruiting and retaining staff, taking into account the requirements for equitable geographic distribution and gender equality set out in the Rome Statute); strategic planning process (delivering true results-based budgeting); and others, such as the conditions of service of the judges, legal assistance and detention costs.

The Government of Mexico's interest in participating in the Committee is not only a factor of its commitment to the Court but also of the fact that Mexico is the seventh largest contributor to the Court's budget and the largest contributor in the Latin American and Caribbean region. It believes therefore that it is justified in wishing to be represented on this body.

In view of the provision contained in paragraph 2 of resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.4 and paragraph 6 of resolution ICC-ASP/1/Res.5, the Embassy wishes to draw the attention of the Secretariat to the candidate's wide multilateral experience, especially in financial and budgetary matters, as set out in the curriculum vitae accompanying this note in the Spanish and English languages. Mrs. Fernández Opazo meets the eligibility requirements to become a member of the Committee and possesses the knowledge necessary to make pertinent contributions to its important

work. She has recognized experience in, for example, scales of assessment, finance, budgets and programmes. Moreover, her election will improve the gender balance on the Committee and give impetus to the active participation of the countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region, whose membership of the Court is among the highest by region.

The Government of Mexico is convinced that with her knowledge, recognized standing and experience of financial affairs at the international level Mrs. Fernández Opazo will make a positive contribution to ensuring that this important subsidiary body of the Assembly fulfils its mandate.

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